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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 18 December 2013

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/68/457)*]

68/187. Technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism

The General Assembly,

Recalling all General Assembly and Security Council resolutions related to technical assistance in countering terrorism, and especially General Assembly resolutions 66/171 of 19 December 2011 on protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, 66/178 of 19 December 2011 on technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, 67/99 of 14 December 2012 on measures to eliminate international terrorism and 67/189 of 20 December 2012 on strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

Stressing again the need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation to effectively prevent and combat terrorism, in particular by enhancing the national capacity of States through the provision of technical assistance, based on the needs and priorities identified by requesting States,

Reiterating all aspects of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy[1] and the need for States to continue to implement the Strategy,

Reiterating also that it is the primary responsibility of Member States to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and recognizing the need to enhance the important role that the United Nations plays, in coordination with other international, regional and subregional organizations, in facilitating coherence in the implementation of the Strategy at the national, regional and global levels and in providing assistance, especially in the area of capacity-building,

Recalling its resolution 66/282 of 29 June 2012 on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy review, in which it reaffirmed the Strategy, noted with appreciation the activities undertaken in the area of capacity-building by United Nations entities to assist Member States, upon their request, in implementing the

[1] Resolution 60/288.

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Strategy, and underlined the importance of greater cooperation among United Nations entities and of the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system and the need to continue to promote transparency and to avoid duplication,

Recalling also that in its resolution 66/282, it recognized the role that victims of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations can play, including in countering the appeal of terrorism, and noting the ongoing efforts of the relevant United Nations entities and Member States to ensure that victims of terrorism are treated with dignity and that their rights are recognized and protected,

Recalling further that in its resolution 67/189, it expressed deep concern about the connections, that may exist in some cases, between some forms of transnational organized criminal and terrorist activities, and emphasized the need to enhance cooperation at the national, subregional, regional and international levels in order to strengthen responses to that evolving challenge,

Expressing concern at the increased use, in a globalized society, by terrorists of new information and communications technologies, in particular the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, inter alia, recruitment and incitement, as well as for the financing, training, planning and preparation of their activities,

Taking note of the new technical assistance tools developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including the handbook entitled "The Criminal Justice Response to Support Victims of Acts of Terrorism" and the publication entitled "The Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes",

Reaffirming that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

1. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the existing international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, in close coordination with the relevant entities of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States for the ratification and legislative incorporation of those international legal instruments;

2. *Urges* Member States to continue to strengthen international coordination and cooperation in order to prevent and combat terrorism in accordance with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, and, when appropriate, by entering into bilateral, regional and multilateral treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance, and to ensure adequate training of all relevant personnel in executing international cooperation activities, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to provide technical assistance to Member States to that end, including by continuing and enhancing its assistance related to international legal cooperation pertaining to terrorism;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the development and maintenance of fair and effective criminal justice systems, in accordance with applicable international law, as a fundamental basis of any strategy to counter terrorism, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, whenever appropriate, to take into account in its technical assistance to counter terrorism the elements necessary for building national capacity in order to strengthen criminal justice systems and the rule of law;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to give high priority to the implementation of an integrated approach through the promotion of its regional and thematic programmes, including by assisting States, as requested, with the further elaboration and development of national, subregional and regional counter-terrorism strategies;

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to strengthen the provision of technical assistance to Member States, upon request and within its mandate, on effective measures, based on the rule of law, for criminal justice responses addressing the prevention of terrorism;

6. *Also calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, for building the capacity of Member States to become a party to and implement international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, including through targeted programmes and the training of relevant criminal justice officials, the development of and participation in relevant initiatives and the elaboration of technical tools and publications, in consultation with Member States;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to continue to develop specialized legal knowledge in the area of counter-terrorism and pertinent thematic areas of relevance to the mandate of the Office and to provide assistance to requesting Member States with regard to criminal justice responses to acts of terrorism as set out in the international legal instruments against terrorism and as detailed in relevant General Assembly resolutions;

8. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate and pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 65/221 of 21 December 2010 and 66/178, to continue to enhance specialized legal knowledge through the preparation of best practices, in close coordination with Member States, on assistance to and support for victims of terrorism, including the role of victims within the criminal justice framework;

9. *Further requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, to continue to develop its specialized legal knowledge in close consultation with Member States to continue to provide assistance to requesting Member States so as to counter the use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, to support those Member States in effectively criminalizing, investigating and prosecuting such acts in accordance with applicable international law on due process and fully respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to encourage the use of the Internet as a tool for countering the spread of terrorism;

10. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to strengthen its cooperation with international organizations and relevant entities of the United Nations system, as well as with international, regional and subregional organizations and arrangements, in the delivery of technical assistance, whenever appropriate;

11. *Takes note with appreciation* of the recent joint initiatives developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, as well as by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force;

12. *Encourages* Member States to cooperate and to address, as appropriate, including through the effective exchange of information and sharing of experiences and best practices, the links that, in some cases, may exist between transnational organized criminal and terrorist activities in order to enhance criminal justice

responses to terrorism, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its relevant mandates, to support the efforts of Member States in this regard, upon request;

13. *Expresses its appreciation* to Member States that have supported the technical assistance activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including through financial contributions, and invites Member States to consider making additional sustainable voluntary financial contributions, as well as providing in-kind support, especially in view of the need for enhanced and effective delivery of technical assistance to assist Member States with the implementation of the relevant provisions of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;[1]

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with sufficient resources to carry out activities, within its mandate, to assist Member States, upon request, in the implementation of the relevant elements of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

70th plenary meeting
18 December 2013